

# **From The Editor**

## **THE U.S. INFANTRYMAN—DOING THE SAME JOB BETTER**

During 1994, INFANTRY will continue its commemoration of World War II with examples of tactics, leadership, and doctrine that continue to be relevant to the soldiers and leaders of today's Army. The extensive combat experience of our soldiers of 50 years ago provides the foundation for much of today's doctrine, and although technology has improved our weapons, the dynamics that determine the success of the infantryman in the close-in fight are remarkably similar to those that brought victory in the Pacific and in Europe. Today it is still the infantryman who must dislodge a stubborn enemy from an occupied city, drive him from his fighting positions, and track him down in his tunnels, spider holes, and base camps, and the American soldier learned his trade well in World War II.

But combat is not the only challenge the soldier has had to face. For much of our nation's history, the U.S. infantry has also conducted operations other than war at home and abroad—helping to restore order in the wake of civil unrest, evacuating and protecting noncombatants, keeping warring factions apart, and providing aid and comfort in the aftermath of natural disasters. The differences between the Army of today and its predecessors lie in the advances in weapon technology, training, and leadership during the intervening years, but the spirit of the infantry has remained constant throughout history.

Also as part of our World War II commemoration, INFANTRY covers in 1994 will feature Willie and Joe, who have symbolized that infantry spirit to millions of Americans, both in and out of uniform. Cartoonist Bill Mauldin served three years in the 45th Infantry Division and saw some of its bitterest fighting as the division fought its way across Italy. It was this experience that gave us these two timeless infantrymen. Mr. Mauldin was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1945, and again in 1959.

Bill Mauldin's contribution to the traditions and spirit of the U.S. infantry were recognized in 1982 when he was selected to receive the Distinguished Doughboy Award, presented each year to an individual who has been instrumental in improving the morale and welfare of the infantryman. (Other recipients of the award have included Bob Hope, General Matthew B. Ridgway, Senator Robert H. Dole, and General Richard E. Cavazos. The most recent recipient is Lieutenant General David E. Grange, Jr., who received the 1993 award.)

So read your issues of INFANTRY, learn what World War II and later actions have taught us, and broaden your understanding of our profession. As you do, you will also learn how the infantry will meet the challenges of the next century, through the coordinated efforts of the Dismounted Warfighting Battle Lab, at Fort Benning, Georgia. We indeed live in exciting times, and—as throughout our history—the infantryman will continue to be where the action is.

**RAE**

## **SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

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